

# THE RURAL CASKET.

VOL. I.]

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No. 10.

SELECTED.

*AMERICAN COIN, CURRENCY, &c.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON, MONTHLY MAGAZINE

SIR,

THE following remarks on the funded debt, the commerce, coins, and currency of America, may probably at this time be acceptable to many of your readers.

The exceeding great difference in the currency of the American Provinces, has occasioned much misapprehension concerning the actual price of both labour and provisions; their respective relative prices cannot be judged of by the nominal value of their provincial currency, but require to be calculated by the intrinsic value of the coin which it represents, and its relative value to the money of Europe. At New-York, the dollar passes for 8s. currency, yet when they pay England for the goods they import, they estimate the same dollar at 4s. 6d. sterling, or at the rate which Great Britain reckons it in exchange with America. In New-York, a labourer receiving half a dollar, or 4s. currency, wages per day, must buy all the necessaries for his subsistence at the

same rate; whilst the labourer at North Carolina, where the same dollar is current only at 4s. 8d. receives equal wages at only 2s. 4d. per day; but this by no means proves which of the two is able to command most of the necessaries of life; nor does it follow, that New-York cannot afford to export her produce as cheap as North Carolina, provided there are no other local causes, which operate to enhance their cost; for notwithstanding the vast difference in the value of their currency, it will only have a mere nominal operation upon either labour, provisions, or other produce.

The present state of America, both in respect of population and capital, is a greater impediment to the progress of her manufactures, than the price of labour. It is more to her interest to employ the capital she draws from her credit (principally with this country) to promote her agriculture; for her, therefore, to undertake for many years to come to manufacture  
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for herself, would hinder increasing population, and deprive her of the capital she now profitably bestows upon the cultivation of her land, and raising from her soil a vast variety of produce, to give in exchange for the commodities she wants.

The impolicy of Europe, and of this country in particular, by pursuing a system unavoidably calculated to increase the popu-

lation of America, and to diminish their own, to enhance the prices both of labour and provisions; will probably oblige America to anticipate her manufactures, and by the dearth of the markets she used to be supplied from, make it more practicable for her to attempt the introduction of similar manufactures.

### AMERICAN COINS AND CURRENCY.

#### GOLD COINS.

	Pure Gold.	Standard.
Eagles, value each, 10 dollars	247½ grains	or 270
Half Eagles - 5 ditto	123¾ (about 22s. sterl.)	or 135
Quarter Eagles - 2½ ditto	61½	or 97½

#### SILVER COINS.

		Standard.
Dollars, containing 371 4-16 pure silver	or	416
Half, ditto 185 10-16 (about 2s. 3d. sterl.)	-	208
Quarter, ditto 92 13-16	-	104
Dimes, ditto 37 2-16 or 1-10 (about 5½ sterling)	-	41 3-5
Half, ditto 18 9-16 or 1-20	-	20 4-5

#### COPPER COINS.

Cents, value	1-100 of a dollar	208 grs.
Half Cents,	1-200 ditto	104

### THE FOUR AMERICAN CURRENCIES.

New-England	New York	New-Jersey	South-Carolina
Vermont	N. Carolina	Pennsylv.	Georgia
Virginia		Delaware	
Kentucky		Maryland	
Value of dollar, 6s.	8s.	7s. 6d.	4s. 8d. cur.
20s. currency is 15s. sterling.	11s. 3d. ster.	12s. ster.	19s. ster.
Value of £. 100 sterling, £. 133½	£. 177 7-9	£. 166½	£. 103 19-27 cash cu.

### COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE CURRENCIES.

New-England	New-York	New-Jersey	S. Carolina.	Ster.
15s.	20s.	18s. 9d.	11s. 8d.	11s. 3d.

### EXAMPLE OF DUTY ON GOODS IN EACH CURRENCY, AT 15 CENTS PER £. CURRENCY.

Sterling	New-England	New-York	New-Jersey	S. Carolina
On £. 270 is	£. 360	£. 480	£. 450	£. 280 Currency
At 15 cents, duty is	5400	7200	6750	4200 Cents
Amount Currency	16 4	28 16	25 6	4 9 16
Amount in Sterling	12 3	16 4	15 3 9	9 9
Per Cent at £. 270 Ster. is	4 10	6	5 12 6	3 10
Currency	343 16	451 4	424 14	270 4
Is in Sterling	257 17	253 16	254 16 3	260 11

EXAMPLE

EXAMPLE OF DUTY ON GOODS AT 15 CENTS PER DOLLAR.

N. B. 1 Cent per Dollar is equal to £. 1 sterling per Cent. and so in proportion.

	New-England	New-York	New-Jersey	S. Carolina
Sterling £. 270 is	£ 360	£ 480	£ 450	£ 480
Dollar at 4s. 6d.	1200	1200	1200	1200
15 Cents are	180,00	180,00	180,00	180,00
And in dollars	180	180	180	180
Or in Sterl. at 4s. 6d }				
is 15 per Cent. }	40 10	40 10	40 10	40 10
£. 270 Sterling }				

Dollars	1020	1020	1020	1020
Are, in Currency	306	408	384 10	238
And, in ster. at 4s 6 each	229 10	229 10	229 10	219 10

The proportion between £. Sterling and Dollars, in the four American Currencies, is as 81 to 360, or 4s. 6d. for a dollar.

To reduce £. Sterling into American dollars; multiply by 40, and divide by 9.

To reduce Dollars into £. Sterling, multiply by 9, and divide by 40.

TO REDUCE CURRENCY INTO STERLING.

New-England into Sterling, multiply by 3 and divide by 4

New-York ditto - - 9 - 16.

New-Jersey ditto - - 3 - 5

South-Carolina ditto - - 27 - 28

And to reduce Sterling into Currency, make the said multipliers, divisors; and the divisors, multipliers.

TO REDUCE THE CURRENCIES INTO EACH OTHER.

New-England to	New-York	- - -	add 1-3d.
	New-Jersey	- - -	ditto 1-4th.
	South-Carolina	- - -	deduct 2-9ths.
New-York to	New-England	- - -	subtract 1-4th.
	New-Jersey	- - -	deduct 1-16th.
	South-Carolina	- - -	ditto 5-12ths.
New-Jersey to	New-England	- - -	deduct 1-5th.
	New-York	- - -	add 1-15th.
	South-Carolina	(multiply by 28—and divide by 45)	
South-Carolina to	New-England	- - -	add 2-7ths.
	New-York	- - -	ditto 5-7ths.
	New-Jersey	(multiply by 45—and divide by 28)	

The application of the above directions of the former statements, are too obvious to require any operations to illustrate them.

The debt of the United States of America, foreign and domestic, is about 16 millions sterling. The domestic debt has been provided for by the following stocks:

3 per Ct. sto. at 48½ yields int. £6 2 per Ct.  
5 & ½ do. at 80 is 6 17 6 per Ct.  
6 per Ct. do. at 80 is 7 10 per Ct.

Deferred stock, bearing interest at 6 per cent. from the Jan. 1, 1801, at 63, with compound interest from Feb. '97, will only cost 77l. and yield an interest of 7l. 5s. 10d. per cent. The aforesaid prices are about their present value.

The whole stock is in dollars, at the rate of 4s. 6d. sterling per dollar.

Besides the said 4 funded stocks a national bank is established at Philadelphia, on the same principle as the bank of England, & consists of 25,000 shares of 400 dollars each, or 90l. sterling—which, at the price of 102l. and the average dividend of 8l. per cent. yield an interest of 7l. 5s. per cent.

The exchange is 8, will most likely



likely continue in favor of the holders of stock in this country.  
 payment of the interest, to the Feb. 15, '97. Y. Z.

### MATERNAL AFFECTION.

*Extraordinary Instance of Maternal Affection in the savage Animal, to which several of the Gentlemen and Seamen belonging to the Carcass Frigate which went out, to make discoveries towards the North Pole, were eye witnesses.*

**W**HILST the Carcass was locked in the ice, early one morning the man at the mast head gave notice, that three bears were making their way very fast over the frozen ocean, and were directing their course towards the ship. They had, no doubt, been invited by the scent of some blubber of a sea-horse the crew had killed a few days before, which had been set on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a she-bear and her two cubs; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out from the flames part of the flesh of the sea-horse that remained unconsumed, and eat it voraciously. The crew from the ship threw great lumps of the flesh of the sea-horse, which they had still left, upon the ice, which the old bear fetched away singly, laid every lump before her cubs as she brought it, and, dividing it gave each a share, reserving but a small portion to herself. As she was fetching away the last piece, they levelled their

muskets at the cubs, and shot them both dead, and, in her retreat, they wounded the dam, but not mortally. It would have drawn tears of pity, from any but unfeeling minds, to have marked the affectionate concern expressed by this poor beast in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though she was sorely wounded, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, she carried the lump of flesh she had fetched away, as she had done others before; tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them; and, when she saw they had refused to eat, she laid her paws first upon one, and then upon the other, and endeavoured to raise them up: all this while, it was pitiful to hear her moan. When she found she could not stir them, she went off, and, when she had got at some distance, looked back and moaned; and, that not availing her to entice them away, she returned, and, smelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a second time, as before; and, having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for some time stood moaning. But still her cubs not rising to follow her, she returned to them again, and with signs of inexpressible fondness, went round one, and round the other, pawing them and moaning. Finding at last

last that they were cold and lifeless, she raised her head towards the ship, and growled a curse upon the murderers, which they returned with a volley of musket balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

I cannot dismiss this singular anecdote without observing, that the white bear of Greenland &

Spirzbergen is considerably larger than the brown bear of Europe, or the black bear of North America. This animal lives upon fish and seals, and is not only seen upon land in the countries bordering on the North Pole, but often on floats of ice several leagues at sea.

MARINUS.

### A SINGULAR CIRCUMSTANCE.

**I**N 1747, a man was broken alive on the wheel at Orleans, for a high way robbery: and not having friends to bury his body, when the executioner concluded he was dead, he gave him to a surgeon, who had him carried to his anatomical theatre, as a subject to lecture on. The thigh, legs, and arms, of this unhappy wretch, had been broken; yet, on the surgeon's coming to examine him he found him reviving; and by the application of proper cordials he was soon brought to his speech.

The surgeon and his pupils, moved by the sufferings and solicitations of the robber, determined on attempting his cure: but he was so mangled, that his two thighs, and one of his arms, were amputated. Notwithstanding this mutilation, and the loss of blood, he recovered: and in this situation, the surgeon, by his own desire, had him conveyed in a cart 50 leagues from Orleans, where, he said, he intended to gain his livelihood by begging.

His situation was on the road

side, close by a wood: and his deplorable condition excited compassion from all who saw him. In his youth, he had served in the army: and he now passed for a soldier, who had lost his limbs by a cannon shot.

A drover returning from market, where he had been selling cattle, was solicited by the robber for charity; and, being moved by compassion, threw him a piece of silver. "Alas!" said the robber, "I cannot reach it---you see I have neither arms nor legs," for he had concealed his arm which had been preserved behind his back. "So, for the sake of heaven, put your charitable donation into my pouch."

The drover approached him: and, as he stooped to reach up the money, the sun was shining, he saw a shadow on the ground, which caused him to look up; when he perceived the arm of the begger elevated over his head, and his hand grasping a short iron bar. He arrested the blow in its descent; and seizing the robber carried him to his cart,



cart, into which having thrown him, he drove off to the next town, which was very near, and brought his prisoner before a magistrate.

On searching him, a whistle was found in his pocket; which naturally induced a suspicion that he had accomplices in the wood: the magistrate, therefore, instantly ordered a guard to the place where the robber had been seized; and they arrived within half an hour after the murder of the drover had been attempted.

The guard having concealed themselves behind different trees the whistle was blown, the sound of which was remarkably shrill and loud: and another whistle was heard from under ground, three men at the same instant rising from the midst of a bushy clump of brambles, and other dwarf shrubs. The soldiers fired on them, and they fell. The bushes were searched and a descent discovered into a cave.

Here were found three young girls and a boy. The girls were kept for the offices of servants, and the purposes of lust; the boy scarcely 12 years of age, was son to one of the robbers. The girls in giving evidence deposed, that they had lived three years in the cave; that they had been kept there by force from the time of their captivity; that dead bodies were frequently carried into the cave, stripped and buried; and that the old soldier was carried out every dry day; and set by the road side for two or three hours.

On this evidence the murdering mendicant was condemned to suffer a second execution on the wheel. As but one arm remained, it was to be broken by several strokes in several places: and a *coup de grace* being denied, he lived in tortures for near five days. When dead, his body was burned to ashes, and strewed before the winds of heaven.

### *CURIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE.*

*Relation of a Wonderful Voyage, remarkable for Expedition.*

**CAPT. LEE**, a respectable and well known character on the Edmonton road, relates the following remarkable particulars of his voyage home from Lisbon in the year 1773.

He was the apprentice to the master, and was then like a cabin boy, and about fifteen years of age. The name of the ship was the *Mary*, and belonged to Plymouth. In the summer of that

year, they being in Lisbon harbour with their lading, and seventeen hands aboard, and hourly expecting their sailing orders; about nine o'clock at night the captain (whose name was Mark Bland) came on board, and ordered the mate and all the rest of the hands to their hammocks, without so much as leaving a watch to keep the deck. The men went to their rest, but capt.

Lee,

Lee, who was used to attend the cabin lay in wait expecting to be called by the master, when not finding himself wanted he crept to the door to hear if the said master was wanting him or had fallen asleep; but finding the door fast he had the curiosity to peep through the key-hole when he declares he saw his master and some one else sitting opposite to him, and their hands seemed busily employed upon the table at some game, but it was not cards he avers, yet he could not well distinguish what it was; however he retired to his hammock and in the morning after when they turned out they found themselves moor-

ed in Plymouth Sound, the cabin door was open but no master was to be found, nor has he ever been heard of since. The governor of the harbour, upon a fair examination of the particulars, a deposition of which were made on oath, ordered the vessel to be sunk after her lading was removed, and the red buoy which floats over her is yet to be seen and is a well known mark to mariners. This is a fact, and can be well attested that the passage was performed in an unaccountable manner in less than ten hours.

H. Lemoine upon the authority of Capt. Lee.

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### MARIAMNE.

#### A FRAGMENT.

*"Alas had we but sorrows of our own,  
The frequent instances of others' woes  
Must give a generous heart a world of Pain."*

A Female form darted from the sylvan shade, she was fantastically habited, a basket of flowers hung upon her white arm, and her robe was of green; a wild, though penetrating look, flashed from her eye, which shot a kind of ethereal emanation. She flew with irregular steps towards a brook, which rolled with a plaintive, though pleasing murmur, and half concealed its translucent waves amongst the drooping foilage of the surrounding shrubs. She for a moment paused, and seemed intent upon the half-wreathed chaplet which filled her basket; but starting

suddenly, as if urged by some invisible power, seated herself upon the margin of the stream; a sudden breeze of wind disengaged her flaxen tresses, which were braded carelessly, and they fell with an elegant negligence in a thousand artless curls. Never was there beheld a more animating figure! for a moment I was lost in contemplation; but at length my reverie was interrupted by the friend along with me.

"One may easily find," said he, you are a stranger at B----'s since you are not acquainted with the unfortunate maid before you. She is daughter to a gentleman



gentleman of genteel fortune in this neighbourhood. Poor Mariamne! I have seen the day when thou wert the envy of all our belles, and the pride of thy happy family; but these halcyon days are over, and thou art now neglected."

"And what," interrogated I, "is the cause of this unhappy change?"

"Ah!" answered my friend, "the story is too affecting to relate, whilst the unhappy sufferer concerned in it is present; it shall be our subject as we return home." We were now interrupted by a footstep; it was a female attendant in search of the fair Mariamne. Ere the maid approached, she started, with amazing velocity, met her half way, and with a meaning look caught her by the hand, at the same time placing her now finished wreath upon the servant's brow, exclaiming, "Yes, thou art she who hast robbed me of the ungrateful Edward's heart!--thou art doubtless happy; but he is inconstant, he will leave thee soon--soon quit thee for another; but I will go with thee, lead me to him, and let us upbraid the ungrateful--"

I could perceive a tear steal down the maid's cheek, but she strove to hide it from our observation, and taking the hand of her unfortunate mistress, led her from our sight.

"I know," said my friend, "you must be curious to be made acquainted with the cause of the poor Mariamne's deranged situation----About two years ago, a regiment of soldi-

ers were quartered for the winter at B---; the lovely Mariamne was at that time the object of universal admiration! A wretch, (not worthy the name of gentleman) one of the officers, beheld her; he was handsome and insinuating; he immediately, upon meeting with Mariamne, waited upon her father, declaring his intentions to be honourable; he was accordingly admitted to Mr. Beverly's house as the lover of his daughter. Eight or ten weeks elapsed, and scarce a day but the captain was an attendant on the young lady. At length, with the consent of all parties, they were united at the altar. Unhappy, terrible event! scarce had a fortnight rolled on, when sitting at the table after dinner, a letter was delivered to the officer; Mariamne sat next to him, and directed her eye over his shoulder, read to her astonishment the following characters, wrote in a distinct manner at the beginning of the letter "*My dear husband!*"--Scarce had her eyes power to retrace this terrible sentence, when she sunk nearly lifeless in her chair. The idea of guilt, and the surprise of Mariamne's thus suddenly fainting, totally unnerved the captain, and the fatal epistle flew from his trembling hand across the table. Mr. Beverley, who perceived that something contained in this paper had occasioned his daughter's indisposition, eagerly snatched it up: the fatal mystery was soon revealed to him--all the company were now tendering their assistance to the senseless Mariamne.

"Seize



"Seizeth the villain," cried Mr. Beverley, in the first violence of his passion, "he has another wife."

"The sound of those words seemed to shoot through the whole frame of the fair Mariamne; her gentle bosom again heaved, and she once more opened her eyes; but, alas! the presence of the captain was too much, and she again swooned. For several hours did the whole family believe the vital spark of life was totally obliterated: the horrors of the scene were too terrible for the afflicted father to watch the motions of the perfidious officer, who, upon Mr. B---'s exclamation as above,

rushed with his sword unsheathed, from the apartment, and immediately departed from the house. London was supposed to be the place to which he first retired; for the commission he bore in the army was disposed of, and it was imagined that he soon after went abroad. For many months did Mariamne continue quite lunatic: but at length the heat of her disordered mind abated, and settled into a kind of calm but tender melancholy: and I am afraid, poor unhappy girl, she must forever continue in the deplorable condition we have just beheld her." ---Here my friend ceased---

## ON THE OPERATION OF MANURES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE LONDON MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

SIR,

IT will afford me pleasure to see the following miscellaneous observations, on the Operation of Manures, circulated in your publication: Possibly, some of your chemical & experimental correspondents may throw some new light on the subject; a more useful discussion, you doubtless will admit, with me, cannot be brought before the public.

It is well known, that vegetable and animal manures will not contribute to the growth of plants, until they become putrid; in which state they yield the phlogistic principle, and are

more or less valuable and efficacious, in proportion to the quantity of phlogiston they contain.

It is for this reason, that *animal substances* which possess the phlogistic principle in greater abundance than vegetables, are better manures.

All alkaline and absorbent earths are generally considered as manures; but their action, in promoting the growth of plants, is very different from putrid vegetable and animal substances. Every alkaline or absorbent earth attracts an acid in proportion to its strength. When these  
U earths

earths are perfectly uncombined, they are caustic; but when saturated with fixed air, they become quite mild. Fixed air is strongly attracted by all absorbents, and is an acid, the qualities of which are totally different from all others; when combined with absorbents, it becomes neutral.

Dr. Priestly hath shewn, that vegetables contain a large proportion of nitrous air, which is a modification of nitrous acid: and he has also proved, that animal substances (the fat excepted) contain none of this nitrous air; but that in them a portion of fixed and inflammable air is found.

vegetable acid is a powerful antiseptic, and must be expelled before the substances that contain it, can become putrid. The effect, therefore, of an addition of alkaline substance, or absorbent earth, to a mass of vegetable matter, is that of uniting with this nitrous air, which counteracts the putrescent tendency of the vegetable substance; and when, by this union, the acid is thus extracted by these absorbents, putrefaction immediately takes place.

Pulverised limestone, without any calcination, is found to be a good manure, though less quick in its operation than when calcined; and is also, by its weight, in proportion to its bulk, liable to be lost sooner, especially where they practise deep ploughing.

There is great risk in laying much lime on fallowed lands, where there is no vegetable sub-

stance for it to act upon, and acquire a certain degree of saturation before the seed is sown; yet a small quantity will quicken and promote the growth of the seed.

Pulverization increases fertility by increasing the surface to which nutritive principles in the air may more easily attach themselves.

The different species of manure contribute to the fertilizing of land, only in proportion as they introduce into it a quantity of spongy powder, oleaginous particles, or active salt.

The quantity of nutriment which a plant derives from the earth, is in proportion to the number and magnitude of its leaves. The smaller and fewer these are, the less nourishment is drawn.

The nutrition of vegetables is likewise mostly effected immediately by the leaves, which are the lungs of the plant. They not only serve for raising the sap, concocting it, and discharging its superfluity, but are also a kind of roots, filled with delicately fine tubular vessels, that pump the juices from the air, and transmit them to the neighbouring parts.

It is a vulgar error, to suppose that mosses impoverish land. It is true, that loving cold and moisture, grows on poor wet lands; and because such land, in that state, bears little else, it has been supposed, that moss renders it barren:---but the reverse is true. The roots of moss seldom penetrate more than half an inch in depth,



depth, and therefore can draw little from the soil. Take away the moss, and instead of having more, there would be less grass. The only way to improve such land, is effectually to drain it, previous to its being manured; grass will then increase, and the moss disappear. Few, if any, mosses are eaten by cattle. For such lands as these, when broken up, Patney barley is preferable

to any other: for it appears by a paper in the Philosophical transactions, for the year 1678, that this species of barley was recommended to the Royal Society, as being most proper for cold countries; on account of its ripening within nine or ten weeks after it was sown.

C---R.

*Manchester, Feb. '97.*

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*A YOUNG LADY'S PRAYER FOR A HUSBAND.*

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**F**ROM a profane libertine, from an affectedly pious, from a profuse almoner, from an uncharitable wretch, from a wavering religious and injudicious zealot---deliver me.

From one of starching gravity, or ridiculous levity, from an ambitious statesman, from a restless projector, from one that loves any thing besides me, but what is just and honourable---deliver me.

From an exalted poet, a modern wit, a base coward, and a rash fool---deliver me.

From a Venus darling, from a Bacchus profelyte, from a travelling half-bred, from all other masculine affections, not yet recounted---deliver me! But give me one, whose love has more of judgment than passion, who is master of himself, or at least an indefatigable scholar in such a study, who has an equal flame, a parallel inclination, a temper and soul like mine, that, as two talliers, we may appear more perfect by union---Give

me one of as genteel an education as a little expense of time will permit, with an indifferent fortune, independent of the servile levees of the great, and yet one whose retirement is not so much from the public as into himself; one (if possible) above flattery and affronts, and yet as careful in preventing an injury, as able to repair it; one, the beauty of whose mind exceeds that of his face, yet that not deformed, so as to be distinguished from others by its ugliness.

Give me one, who has learned to live much in a little time; one that is no great familiar in converse with the world, nor yet too much retired within himself; one (if two such happinesses may be granted at one time to our sex) who with these endowments may have an easy, honest disposition; who by his practice, as well as principles, has made himself so, let him be truly virtuous and pious, and me truly happy in my choice.

ANECDOTES

## ANECDOTES.

THE following whimsical circumstance happened some time ago in Kilkenny. A taylor, who was married to a very sickly woman, grew enamoured with a young girl who lived in his neighbourhood, who consented to grant him all he could wish, provided he would give her a promise in writing to marry her immediately on the demise of his rib; in consequence of which Mr. Snip passed her the following curious note of hand

*"In two days after the demise of my present wife, I promise to marry Mary Moran, for order, value received, under a penalty of fifty pounds sterling. Given under my hand this 16th day of May, 1789.*

JER. SULLIVAN."

Shortly after Moran received the above note she died, leaving it endorsed to a female friend, who also chanced to take a fever and die before the taylor's wife; however on her sick bed, she also endorsed the note, and gave it to a cousin, whom the taylor absolutely married, agreeably to endorsement, in two days after the death of his wife. Our correspondent assures us he knew the transaction well, and that the taylor and his wife are now living happily in the city of Kilkenny.

THE Magistrate of a little village in the marquisate of Brandenburg, committed a burgher to prison, who was charged with

having blasphemed God, the king, and the magistrate. The burgomaster reported the same to the king, in order to know what punishment such a criminal deserved. The following sentence was written by his majesty in the margin of the report:

"That the prisoner has blasphemed God, is a sure proof, that he does not know him; that he has blasphemed me, I willingly forgive: but, for his blaspheming the magistrate, he shall be punished, in an exemplary manner, and committed to Spandau for half an hour."

THE Dutchess of York being in want of a laundress, desired the housekeeper to look out for some person to fill that situation. A decent young woman was accordingly recommended; but the house-keeper objected to her in the Duke's hearing, observing that she was a soldier's wife, and that these people were generally bad characters. "What's that you say, Madam?" replied the Duke, "*a soldier's wife?*" Pray, what is your mistress, and bedamned to you? Engage the woman immediately."

A RICH proud miser having a mind to perpetuate his memory, ordered his statue to be carved in marble. When it was brought home he asked a gentleman if it was not like him? "Yes (said he) very like---in body and soul."

ORIGINAL.



ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE ADVANTAGE OF VIRTUE.

**V**IRTUE, soft balm of every woe,  
Of every ill the cure:  
'Tis thou alone that canst bestow,  
Pleasures unmix'd and pure.

The shady wood, the verdant mead,  
Are Virtue's flow'ry road;  
Nor painful are the steps which lead,  
To her divine abode.

'Tis not in palaces or halls,  
She or her train appear;  
Far off she flies from pompous walls,  
Virtue and Peace dwell here.

D. E.

*Fishkill Plains, June 21st, 1798.*

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SELECTED.

AN ELEGY.

**W**HY didst thou, Cynthia, tempt my wondering feet  
To visit Sherbourn's ever blissful grove?  
Why didst thou call me to thy calm retreat,  
The blest abode of Innocence and Love?

With anxious haste I bade the town adieu!  
And fondly deem'd with conscious Peace to dwell;  
I bade the sons of wealth their schemes pursue,  
And fought, with eager steps the rural cell.

I found thee happiest of the village swains,  
For she was thine whom most thou didst adore!  
Elvira! pride of all the neighbouring plains,  
For beauty fam'd—for ev'ry virtue more.

Far from the tumult of the madd'ning throng,  
In careless ease I pass'd the tranquil day;  
My pipe I turn'd, and rais'd the vocal song,  
And ev'ry sylvan scene inspir'd the lay.

Ceres I sung, whose kind prolific hand,  
Profuse of blessings, decks the varied scene;  
Bids Autumn's ripen'd stores enrich the land,  
And jocund Plenty crown the cheerfull green.

Beauty

Beauty was next my theme, and Love sincere ;  
 All potent Love ! whose influence reigns confest ;  
 With whom comes smiling Hope, and anxious Fear,  
 Alternate rulers of the human breast.

Ah ! little thought I, while I heedless stray'd,  
 Or blythsome sung within the festive bow'r ;  
 That danger lur'd beneath the peaceful shade,  
 That there the tyrant god exerts his power !

Unconscious oft I view'd the rural fair,  
 And view'd without a pang, each rising charm ;  
 The swift-wing'd minutes left no trace of care,  
 No soft sensation gave my breast alarm !

With ev'ry grace adorn'd and native ease,  
 At length Lucinda caught my wond'ring eye ;  
 In her was centr'd ev'ry pow'r to please,  
 To melt the heart, and prompt the tender sigh !

At once the soft contagion caught my breast ;  
 For what can Love's almighty power controul ?  
 The ruling passion ev'ry thought possest,  
 And ev'ry fond idea fill'd my soul !

Fast by the stream that winds through Miyod's vale,  
 There did I first my ardent vows impart ;  
 She deign'd to listen to the artless tale,  
 The warm effusions of a faithful heart !

'Tis true she listen'd to my tender woes,  
 With patient ear she heard my fervent sighs ;  
 Compassion soft within her bosom rose,  
 But yet she bade not gentle hope arise.

The changeful seasons twice their course have run,  
 Yet still unchang'd her conq'ring pow'r I feel ;  
 Her image rising with the rising sun,  
 Nor can the shades of night her form conceal.

Ah ! why, Lucinda, did my wayward fate,  
 With force resistless, doom my soul to prove,  
 Those cares, those heart-corroding cares, that wait,  
 On anxious doubt, and unrequited love ?

Whate'er my lot, on thee I still will tend,  
 I'll watch thy footsteps with redoubled zeal ;  
 On thee alone my utmost hopes depend,  
 Thy smiles alone can fix my future weal.



Full well, dear maid, thy wound'rous worth I know,  
The wealthiest swain might wish with thee to join ;  
But I, alas ! have little to bestow,  
Save a fond, faithful heart ! and that is thine.

# AN ODE.

*By Thompson.*

TELL me, thou soul of her I love,  
Ah ! tell me, whether art thou fled ?  
To what delightful world above,  
Appointed for the happy dead ?

Or dost thou free at pleasure roam,  
And sometimes share thy lovers woe ;  
Where, void of thee, his cheerless home,  
Can now, alas ! no comfort know ?

O ! if thou hover'st round my walk,  
Whilst under every well known tree,  
I to thy fancied shadow talk,  
And every tear is full of thee.

Should then the weary eye of grief,  
Besides some sympathetic stream,  
In slumber find a short relief,  
O visit thou my soothing dream !

## DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

*From the Western Telegraph.*

A Curious Prophecy of an Indian taken from his own words by a trader whose name is Smith, on the shore of Lake Champlain : a copy of which I think worth publishing, and send it to you for that purpose--- it was taken on the 20th January last---it is as follows :

“ Our young men went a hunting, and said they would return in two Moons with their loads of fur and skins. It is now

almost three Moons, & they are not returned. I fasted 5 days and 5 nights to prepare for holding a conference with the angel of the lake, that he might tell me what our young men were doing. On the 6th night the angel of the Lake appeared to me and told me, that our young men were employed by the French nation, and he was sorry for it, for the French by attempting to conquer all the world, would lose it all, and the kingdom of France

France beyond the great sea would, in 28 moons, become a British province."

*New-York, July 30.*

The President of the United States, his lady and niece, left town last Saturday, about four o'clock in the afternoon, escorted by the Washington Troop commanded by Col. Giles, and accompanied in carriages by major Gen. Clarkson, and Brigadier General Hughes, with their Aids, Major G. N. Bleecker & W. Morton, and by Colonels Morton and Swartwout. They attended the President as far as Westchester to the seat of his son-in-law Col. Smith, where he remains a few days, and then pursues his journey to Braintree.

Lewis D. Flin, fruiterer, living near the Coffee House, yesterday afternoon stabbed his wife in the side with a staple, it is said dangerously. He has since been committed to bridge-well.

A gentleman from Tortola, saw Extracts from the London Gazettes of 24 or 26 May; which contained dispatches from Earl Campden to the Secretary, informing that three parties of the insurgents or United Irishmen, one to the number of 5,000 men had been completely routed and upwards of 200 killed; that they had got possession of Kildare, which place they were fitting

in the best posture of defence, intending it as the depot for arms and the general rendezvous, that one of the leaders, the only man taken alive had been carried to Dublin.

The loss of the Government Troops was very trifling.

DIED,

On the 27th inst. of a lingering sickness, the amiable Mrs. Martha Foster, wife of the Rev. Dr. Foster, pastor of the first Baptist Church in this city. This stroke of Divine Providence is sensibly felt by her connections and numerous friends, but more especially by her afflicted parents and husband.

Departed this life on Sunday morning, after a short illness, Melancton Smith, Esq. in the 55th year of his age.

*Boston, July 27.*

The United States frigate and the Delaware sloop of war, it is said, will sail the first wind.--- The Herald sloop of war, Capt. Seaver, is nearly completed.

*Poughkeepsie, August 7.*

A letter from Norfolk, to a gentleman in Baltimore, dated the 23d ult. states that it was reported there that the Constitution frigate had taken a 20 gun French privateer & sent her into Charleston (S. C.) which had a few days before taken an American ship, and put all hands to the sword.